

2023 CALENDAR





MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST COLUMBAN

Registered Charity in England & Wales (221594) and in Scotland (SCO38948)

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Dear Columban Friend,

On behalf of the international Columban family I'd like to wish you a VERY HAPPY 2023. Please accept this calendar as a sign of our gratitude for all your support.

As an additional symbol of our thanks I'd like you especially and genuinely to receive this sentiment of "HAPPY".

We tend to use this word automatically, without really appreciating its significance. At times it almost seems inappropriate to use it, as we look at all the suffering there is in the world. However, it is a word close to my heart, and one that links

me to the Columban Missionaries. Indeed, "Happiness, Come What May" could be our slogan.



Back in 1988 I was working as a postman in my native town of Stockport, trying to decide which group of missionary priests to join. Few seemed to be operating in more difficult and dangerous places than the Columbans, yet I was struck by how HAPPY they always seemed to be. It was one of the reasons I decided to join them – and I've never regretted it. Wherever Columbans are, no matter what setbacks we face, we never seem to lose our sense of good humour.

You only have to look at the things that we and the people we serve are enduring at present. Tightening political pressure in our first and longest mission of China. Human rights abuses under populist regimes in the Philippines. Grinding poverty, sectarian violence and monsoon floods in Pakistan. A military coup in Myanmar (Burma). South Korea under threat from the North, Taiwan similarly menaced by its neighbour. Lingering effects of the global Covid, migration and economic crises in Chile, Peru, Mexico, Fiji and elsewhere. Yet, through it all, the Columbans remain "happy".

This isn't a superficial happiness, but a faith-filled joy that comes from knowing how, sooner or later, good will conquer evil. God (in the words of Our Lady) will, "lift up the lowly, fill the starving with good things, cast unjust rulers from their thrones" (Lk. 1: 51-53).

Columbans are like St. Paul, "afflicted but never downhearted, persecuted but never forsaken, knocked down but never destroyed" (2 Cor. 4: 8-9). We always come out smiling - just look at this year's pictures!

So again – with feeling – thank you and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Above: Fr John Boles

Fr John Boles Columban Director in Britain

I Co

Front cover: Lay Missionaries, Faith in Action volunteers and Columban co-workers outside Fatima House, a home for women asylum seekers in Birmingham.



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Welcome the Stranger

"Chile is facing a humanitarian crisis with more than one and a half million migrants arriving in Chile in the last two years. If we truly want to follow Jesus, we have to welcome migrants, support them, help them. We can't throw people out on the street. We have to give them a chance."

Fr Dan Harding Migrant Ministry Chile



The San Columbano Shelter and Migrants Hall in Santiago, Chile, founded by a Columban parish, welcomes its first guests from Venezuela. Scan to watch a video about this ministry.



January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	St Basil the Great St Gregory Nazianzen Psalter W2	Most Holy Name of Jesus	St Elizabeth Ann Seton		First Friday THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	St Raymond of Penyafort
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	Week 1 in Ordinary Time Psalter W1			St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot	St Hilary St Kentigern (Scotland)	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
PEACE DAY 2ND OF YEAR Psalter W2		St Anthony, Abbot	OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY	St Wulstan, Bishop	St Fabian, Pope St Sebastian	St Agnes
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD 3RD OF YEAR Psalter W3		St Francis de Sales	The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle	Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops	St Angela Merici	St Thomas Aquinas
29	30	31				
4TH OF YEAR Psalter W4		St John Bosco				





Rev. Gayatriprana of the Vedanta Society meets Fr Pat McInerney of the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations at the launch of the Sydney Statement, an interfaith charter. Scan to read the Statement.



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Build Bridges

"We invite you — our peers, our elders, the members and leaders of our own and other faith traditions, and all people of goodwill — to 'build bridges between believers from different religions' by living out the values, principles and commitments of The Sydney Statement."

The Sydney Statement Columbans Oceania

February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			St Brigid of Ireland	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	First Friday St Blaise St Ansgar	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
RACIAL JUSTICE DAY 5TH OF YEAR Psalter W1	St Paul Miki and Companions (Martyrs of Japan)		PRAY FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING St Jerome Emiliani St Josephine Bakhita	St Teilo, Bishop (Wales)	St Scholastica	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK Our Lady of Lourdes
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
6TH OF YEAR Psalter W2		St Cyril and St Methodius (Patrons of Europe)			Seven Servite Founders	St Colman of Lindisfarne
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED 7TH OF YEAR Psalter W3		St Peter Damian	ASH WEDNESDAY FAST AND ABSTINENCE The Chair of St Peter, Apostle Psalter W4	St Polycarp		
26	27	28				
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT Psalter W1	Saint Gregory of Narek	St Oswald of Worcester				



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Fill our hearts

During this holy season of Lent, help us to change and grow and become the kind of people You created us to be.

Fill our hearts with love for You and for all people,

Show us how to use the gifts You have given us To help others in Your name.

Amen

Columbans USA



Fr Noel O'Neill celebrates Mass with Kim Youn Cheong, a resident of the Rainbow Community, which provides community-based services to people with intellectual disabilities in Korea.

March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
					WOMEN'S WORLD DAY	
			St David, Patron of Wales	St Chad, Bishop	OF PRAYER LENT FAST DAY First Friday	St Casimir
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT Psalter W2		Ss Perpetua and Felicity	St John of God	St Frances of Rome	St John Ogilvie (Scotland)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT Psalter W3					St Patrick Patron of Ireland	St Cyril of Jerusalem
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	CT LOCEPIL					
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT Psalter W4	ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY St Cuthbert			St Turibius de Mongrovejo		THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
26	27	28	29	30	31	
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT Psalter W1						



In the Columban parish of Christ the King in Ba, Fiji, served by Fr Pat Colgan, a Good Friday drama is re-enacted by young adults from the highland villages.



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Alive to God

"We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Romans 6:9-11

April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30						1
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Psalter W2	HOLY WEEK	HOLY WEEK	HOLY WEEK	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY FAST AND ABSTINENCE First Friday	HOLY SATURDAY
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
EASTER SUNDAY Psalter W1	EASTER OCTAVE	EASTER OCTAVE	EASTER OCTAVE	EASTER OCTAVE	EASTER OCTAVE	EASTER OCTAVE
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
DIVINE MERCY 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Psalter W2		St Alphege	St Beuno (Wales)	St Anselm, Bishop	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER Psalter W3	ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND St Adalbert (Wales) St Fidelis of Sigmaringen	St Mark			St Peter Chanel St Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort	St Catherine of Siena (Patron of Europe)



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Shine your Light

Shine your light upon me so that I may see my true vocation. Give me the grace to hear your word.

Thank you for sending your son Jesus, the Lord of the Harvest; help me to follow His example.

May I freely, courageously and lovingly respond.

Amen.

Columbans USA



A Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Fr Jerry A. Lohera, who was ordained priest on 14 June 2022 at San Roque Parish in Misamis Oriental, Philippines. Scan for the latest updates by Columban seminarians.



May 2023

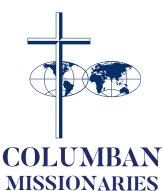
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	St Joseph the Worker	St Athanasius	Ss Philip and James, Apostles	The English Martyrs	First Friday St Asaph (Wales)	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Psalter W1		PRAY FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE	St John De Avila		Ss Nereus and Achilleus St Pancras	Our Lady of Fatima
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Psalter W2	St Isadore			THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD St John I, Pope	St Dunstan	St Bernardine of Siena
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Psalter W3	St Rita of Cacsia	St William of Rochester	St David of Scotland	St Bede the Venerable St Gregory VII, Pope St Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi	St Philip Neri	St Augustine of Canterbury
28	29	30	31			
PENTECOST	MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH St Paul VI Week 8 in Ordinary Time Psalter W4		The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary			





Lay Missionary Lee Jiyoung Tina helps a student to make a cupcake at a day-care centre for people with disabilities in Hsinchu, Taiwan.

Scan to find out about Columban Lay Mission.



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Dignity for All

"In order to build themselves, people with disabilities not only need to exist but they also need to belong to a community. I pray that each person may feel the paternal gaze of God, who affirms their full dignity and the unconditional value of their life."

Pope Francis International Day of Persons with Disabilities

June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST St Justin	First Friday Ss Marcellinus and Peter	St Charles Lwanga and Companions
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY	Week 9 in Ordinary Time Psalter W1 St Boniface	St Norbert			St Ephrem of Syria St Columba	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST	Week 10 in Ordinary Time Psalter W2	St Anthony of Padua			THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS St Richard of Chichester	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DAY FOR LIFE 11TH SUNDAY Psalter W3	St Romuald	St Alban St Julius St Arron	St Aloysius Gonzaga	St John Fisher St Thomas More St Paulinus of Nola (Wales)	St Etheldreda (Audrey)	THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
25	26	27	28	29	30	
12TH SUNDAY Psalter W4		St Cyril of Alexandria	St Irenaeus	SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES Society of St. Columban Foundation Day	The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church	



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Love One Another

"We love because he first loved us. Those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also."

1 John 4:19-21



Columban Sister Kathleen Geaney, who is engaged in interfaith ministry with the Buddhist community, greets a friend in Mandalay, Myanmar (Burma).

July 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31					1
17TH SUNDAY Psalter W1	St Ignatius of Loyola					St Oliver Plunkett
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13TH SUNDAY Psalter W1	St Thomas, Apostle	St Elizabeth of Portugal	St Anthony Mary Zaccaria	St Maria Goretti	First Friday	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
SEA SUNDAY 14TH SUNDAY Psalter W2		St Benedict (Patron of Europe)	St John Jones (Wales)	St Henry	St Camillus de Lellis	St Bonaventure
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
15TH SUNDAY Psalter W3				St Apollinaris	St Lawrence of Brindisi	St Mary Magdalene
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
16TH SUNDAY Psalter W4	St Sharbel Makhluf	St James, Apostle	Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary			Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus



Fr Louie Ybañez accompanies families made homeless and deprived of their livelihood by the devastating floods of 2022 in Sindh province, Pakistan.



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Teach us to Listen

Open our ears and move our hearts. Turn us from our inward gaze. Teach us to listen for the voice of each creature declaring your glory. Give us hearts to listen for the good news of your promise to renew the face of the Earth.

Amen.

Prepare for the Season of Creation

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		St Alphonsus Mary de' Liguori	St Eusebius of Vercelli St Peter Julian Eymard	St Germanus of Auxerre (Wales)	First Friday St John Mary Vianney	Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	Ss Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions St Cajetan Week 18 in Ordinary Time Psalter W2	St Dominic	St Teresa Benedicta of The Cross (Patron of Europe)	St Lawrence	St Clare	St Jane Frances de Chantal
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19TH SUNDAY Psalter W3	St Maximillian Mary Kolbe	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	St Stephen of Hungary		St Helen	St John Eudes
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
20TH SUNDAY Psalter W4	St Pius X, Pope	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	St Rose of Lima	St Bartholomew, Apostle	St Louis St Joseph of Calasanz	Bl Dominic Barberi St David Lewis (Wales) St Ninian (Scotland)
27	28	29	30	31		
21ST SUNDAY Psalter W1	St Edmund Arrowsmith St Augustine	The Passion of St John the Baptist	Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward	St Aidan and Saints of Lindisfarne		



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Our Common Home

Enlighten us with the grace to follow the Way of Christ as we learn to walk lightly upon this holy ground.

Fill us with the hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of your healing love that sustains our common home.

Amen.

Celebrate the Season of Creation



Fr John Boles with co-workers and Lay Missionaries join young activists on a climate relay walk from Cornwall to the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow. **Scan for more on Justice, Peace & Ecology.**



September 2023

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A teacher working for Columban project Warmi Huasi in Peru visits a child at home to give a catch-up lesson in Lampa, Ayacucho.

Scan to watch videos about this and other ministries in Peru.



COLUMBANMISSIONARIES

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Prayer for the Synod 2023

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

> Teach us the way we must go and how to pursue it.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

Amen.

October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26TH SUNDAY Psalter W2	The Holy Guardian Angels		St Francis of Assisi	St Faustina Kowalska	First Friday HARVEST FAST DAY St Bruno	Our Lady of the Rosary
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
PRISON WEEK 27TH SUNDAY Psalter W3	St John Henry Newman	St Paulinus of York St Denis and Companions St John Leonardi	St John XXIII, Pope	St Wilfred	St Edward The Confessor	St Callistus I, Pope
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
28TH SUNDAY Psalter W4	St Hedwig St Margaret Mary Alacoque St Richard Gwyn (Wales)	St Ignatius of Antioch	St Luke, Evangelist	Ss John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions St Paul of the Cross		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
WORLD MISSION DAY 29TH SUNDAY Psalter W1	St John of Capestrano	St Anthony Mary Claret	The Six Welsh Martyrs and their Companions	St Chad St Cedd		Ss Simon and Jude
29	30	31				
30TH SUNDAY Psalter W2						



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What will your Catholic legacy be?

Please consider leaving a gift in your Will to the Columban Missionaries.



Scan for the 'Your Catholic Legacy' guide to writing a Will.



Fr Dan Troy takes part in the annual Tomb Sweeping Festival in Jingshan, China. Priests accompany Catholics to lead prayers and bless family graves.

November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			ALL SAINTS	THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)	First Friday St Martin de Porres St Winefride	St Charles Borromeo
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
31ST SUNDAY Psalter W3	St IIItud (Wales)	St Willibrord	All Saints of Wales	DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA	St Leo the Great, Pope	St Martin of Tours
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				St Margaret of		
REMEMBRANCE DAY 32ND SUNDAY Psalter W4		St Dyfrig (Wales)	St Albert the Great	Scotland St Gertrude St Edmund of Abingdon	St Hilda St Hugh of Lincoln St Elizabeth of Hungary	Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
WORLD DAY OF THE						
POOR 33RD SUNDAY Psalter W1		The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	St Cecilia	St Clement I, Pope St Columban	St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions	St Catherine of Alexandria
26	27	28	29	30		
VOLITH DAY						
YOUTH DAY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. KING OF THE UNIVERSE	Week 34 in Ordinary Time Psalter W2			St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland		



Lay Missionary Rosalia Basada works with young children at Casa del Migrante, a shelter for migrants in Ciudad Juárez near the US-Mexico border.



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Kingdom Builders

Lord, make us instruments of your justice, so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish, and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow.

Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom, together with migrants and refugees and with all who dwell on the peripheries.

Amen.

Pope Francis

December 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					1	2
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH Psalter W1					First Friday	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS BIBLE SUNDAY 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Psalter W1	St John Damascene	St Birinus	St Nicholas	St Ambrose	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	St John Diego Cuahtlatoatzin
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2ND OF ADVENT Psalter W2	St Damasus I, Pope	Our Lady of Guadalupe	St Lucy	St John of the Cross		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3RD OF ADVENT Psalter W3				St Peter Canisius		St John of Kanty
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
DAY OF PRAYER FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS Christmas Eve 4TH OF ADVENT	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD		Sa Jaka Aranda	The Hele Improved		
Psalter W4	CHRISTMAS DAY	St Stephen	St John, Apostle	The Holy Innocents	St Thomas Becket	

IN GRATITUDE

Ephesians 1:16

"I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."



Scan to discover the latest news and updates from Columban Missionaries



COLUMBAN MISSION

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